

AL-III-B-018

RICE'S FRAME and LOG HOUSE  
Route 51, Spring Gap  
ca. 1800

The Rice House is of particular significance in that it encompasses a 18' x 24' log structure that was once the original structure on the property. The land on which the house stands was originally granted to Michael Collier on May 23, 1793 and was known as "Collier's Discovery". Two major additions have been added to the original structure so that it is now no longer visible from the exterior, and instead the house has the appearance of a farmhouse built in the "vernacular" tradition of Allegany County.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

0101815204  
AL-III-B-018

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Rice's Orchard Frame &amp; Log House

AND/OR COMMON

Emerik Frame House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Md. Route 51, N. W. of Spring Gap, Md.

CITY, TOWN

Spring Gap

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John Emerik

Telephone #: 724-3156

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Md. Route 51, N. W. of Spring Gap, Md.

CITY, TOWN

Spring Gap

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland, Maryland

STATE

Maryland

Liber #: 192

Folio #: 206

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

AL-III-B-018 -

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Rice's Orchard Frame & Log House is located on Route 51 just northwest of Spring Gap, Allegany County.

Although the Rice house has gone through many transformations, it is presently a large rectangular structure four bays wide and two and a half stories high. The original structure was an 18' x 24' log building which is now located in the right hand rear portion of the building and is covered with weatherboard.<sup>1</sup> This part of the structure, in all probability, dates from the late 18th Century.<sup>2</sup> A somewhat later frame addition makes up the main facade and is also covered with weatherboard while the most recent addition which abuts the log section in the rear of the building is frame covered with asbestos shingles. The roof is gabled and is covered with asphalt shingles. Several low cross gables are placed both along the main facade and the northeastern side of the structure. There are a number of rectangular ventilaters set into the gable ends. The entire facade is supported by a low stone foundation with a plain water table. Entrances are located on the front and western sides of the building and contain replaced doors and hardware. Windows in the structure are one over one lights and the main facade is interrupted by two single story bay windows. The main entrance is covered by a four bay porch with a flat roof and supported by Roman Doric columns. A second enclosed porch with a hipped roof is located on the rear westerly portion of the building. One corbeled brick chimney is located in the interior of the main building.

1. Oral interview with John Emerick, present owner. 8/25/76
2. Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
1000-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although Rice's Frame & Log House does not differ that much from the majority of farmhouses built in the latter half of the 19th Century in Allegany County, it is of special importance in that part of the house is an 18' x 24' log section that in all probability dates to the late 18th Century. The land on which the house stands was originally granted to Michael Collier dated May 23, 1793, and was known as "Collier's Discovery". Collier was to sell the land two years later to Jacob Slagel of Hampshire County, Commonwealth of Virginia. Since the property remained in the Slagel family for some time following this transaction it is possible that Jacob Slagel or some member of his family built the original log structure.<sup>1</sup>

As is evident from the physical description, this original log structure has had two major additions and is now no longer visible from the exterior. From all records, the property seems always to have been used as a farm and most recently (1911) the land was used as an orchard by the Rice family.<sup>2</sup>

The Rice Frame and Log House, despite the fact that the log section is no longer visible, is nevertheless a good example of the changes that time and economy can make on what may have been a temporary log structure built by a member of the Slagel family who came up from Virginia to survey their lands.

<sup>1</sup> Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

<sup>2</sup> ibid

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin, & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

9/1/76

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH

Rice's Orchard & Farm House  
Uhl Highway, Maryland  
AL-III-B-018

Historical Chain of Title

Allegany County Deed, Liber 192, Folio 206  
grantee: John Emerick  
grantor: Caroline S. Wagner  
November 29, 1941  
Consideration: \$4,000.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 180, Folio 700  
grantee: Caroline S. Wagner  
grantor: George R. Hughes  
June 13, 1938  
Consideration: \$4,800.00

Allegany County Deed, Mortgage, Liber 137, Folio 506  
grantee: William D. Twigg & Helen Twigg et. ux.  
grantor: Caroline Wagner  
August 13, 1937  
Consideration: \$4,800.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 109, Folio 60  
grantee: Walter W. Rice, Lulu D. Rice & Millard & Sally Rice  
grantor: Jerome R. Swartly & Annie V. Swartly  
November 25, 1911  
Consideration: \$2,500.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 63, Folio 591  
grantee: Adam Seibert (Purchased in mortgage sale)  
grantor: DeWarren H. Reynolds, Trustee  
April 27, 1887  
Consideration: \$1,300.00

Changery Docket No. 3617  
Adam Seibert - Plaintiff  
George Meyers - Defendant

Recorded in Judgement  
Record # 26, Folio 290  
February 10, 1887

Allegany County Deed, Liber 61, Folio 370  
grantee: Otilia Meyers  
grantor: John Widier, Excutor of Will of Henry Meyers  
December 13, 1884  
Consideration: \$1,900.00

Allegany County Deed, Liber 60, Folio 381 - Land called "Resurvey of Collier's  
Discovery"

grantee: Henry Meyers

grantor: John Davis - through Will of Terence Malone  
October 30, 1883

Allegany County Deed, Liber 17, Folio 423

grantee: Terence Malone

grantor: John Davis

September 25, 1858

Consideration: \$112.50

Allegany County Deed, Liber B, Folio 65

grantee: Jacob Slagal (Hampshire County, Commonwealth of Virginia)

grantor: Michael Collier

September 30, 1795

Consideration: 300 pounds

Land Originally granted to Michael Collier by State of Maryland on patent  
dated 23rd of May, 1793. (Deed, Liber 16, Folio 423)

INVENTORY NO. A1-111-B-018

192/204  
p.64

DATE: 8/25/76

RECOMMENDING: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Rice's Orchard Frame & Log House

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Md. Rt. 51 N.W. of Spring Gap, Md.

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: South

NAME OF OWNER: John Emery Emerik 724-3156

ADDRESS: Spring Gap, Md.

STORIES: 1( ) 2(☒) 3(<sup>1/2</sup>) 4( ) 5( ) 6( ) BAYS: 1( ) 2( ) 3(☒) 4(☒) 5( ) 6( ) 7( ) ( )

WINGS, ADDITIONS: new porch & rear 1st hand addition

Dwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (☒) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- ( ) BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- ( ) STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- (☒) LOG right hand rear part 18x24
- (☒) Other: Coverings replaced asbestos shingles

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE + cement block under porch

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1(☒) 2/2( ) 6/6( ) 9/6( ) 9/9( ) other( )  
pegged( ) nailed(☒) wide( ) narrow( ) mitred( ) pediment( )

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: front side  
HARDWARE: original( ) replaced(☒)  
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN  
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)  
original( ) replaced( ) Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze, Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, MANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, FORMERS #  
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original( ) replaced(☒)

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed(☒) hip( ) gable( ) 4 bay end porch / enclosed side

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER            BRICK( ) STONE( ) CORBELLED( ) original( ) replaced( )  
LOCATION: Flush end( ) Inside end( ) Outside end( ) Central( ) Interior( )

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

Use - residence

Significance - architecture

Date Constructed - late 18th c. (log section)

Condition - good

PREVIOUS 1st Wagner  
2nd Rice  
3rd Emerik





AI-III-B-023

North Branch

AI-III-B-022

AI-III-B-011

AI-III-B-026

AI-III-B-018

AI-III-B-021

AI-III-B-018

Patterson Creek

Rice's Orchard Frame + Log House

Spring Gap

USGS - Patterson Creek Quad

1:24,000

1949

AI-III-B-020

Spring Gap

AI-III-B-019

AI-III-B-017

AI-III-B-012

AI-III-B-013



Rick's Orchard Farms + Log House,  
A1-111-B-018

Rt. 51 N.W. of Spring Gap, Md.

John E. Nelson

8/25/76

~~NEPA WASH~~  
SOUTH EAST



Rice's Orchard Framz + Log House,

A1-III-B-018

Rt. 51 N.W. of Spring Gap, Md.

John E. Nelson

8/23/76

~~South East~~

North West